TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SECOND COUNCIL.

FIRST SESSION, 1101.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

Friday, the 23rd April, 1926/11th Medam, 1101.

The Council met again in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Eleven thirty-three of the Clock, the President presiding.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President under Standing Order No. 12*—

1. Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat.

2. The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in serial order, specify the serial number of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place, if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Conversion of the Village Road from the south of Tekkekara Pakuthi Cutchery into a Cart Road.

342. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to convert the village road from the south of Tekkekara *Pakuthi Cutchery* in the Mavelikara taluk, running westwards to join the cart road running northwards from Kayankulam to Tattarampalam in the Mavelikara taluk, into a cart road, so as to facilitate the transport of manure and agricultural produce by the people of the region concerned?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes. The Chief Engineer will be requested to send up an estimate for the work.

Concessions to Nairs.

343. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the fact that even an examination of the Trade and Industrial Tables in the *Census Report*

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[Mr. G. Raman Menon.]

for 1921 shows that the Nairs are very backward in trade and industrial pursuits in comparison with some other classes such as Christians, Mussalmans, Shanars, Ezhavas and Brahmins?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to consider the statement given below which is prepared from figures given on pages 96 to 104, 122, 123 and 46 to 50 of the *Census Report* for 1921, for determining the relative position of the different castes or sects mentioned therein as regards trade and industries?

Statement showing the relative position of certain castes or sects in trade and industries.

Name of caste or sect.	No. engaged in trade.	No. of skilled industrial workers.	No. of unskilled industrial workers.	Total No. engaged in trade and industries together.	Total population.	Approximate per-centage.	Remarks.
Christians .	1,18,214	5,007	3,236	1,26,457	11,72,934	10·78	
Mussalmans .	35,404	491	964	36,859	2,70,478	13·63	
Brahmins* .	3,660	32	6	3,698	60,511	6·11	* Brahmins have an abnormal representation in the public service in addition to this.
Ezhavas .	42,138	3,291	3,451	48,880	6,67,935	7·32	
Shanars .	12,817	1,227	1,592	15,636	2,00,838	7·79	
Nairs .	15,449	601	1,748	17,798	6,90,495	2·57	

(*c*) In pursuance of the general policy of the Government in giving special consideration to special classes backward in special respects such as English education or representation in the public service, will the Government be pleased to extend specially favourable treatment to Nairs in educational concessions, grants-in-aid, loans, etc., which pertain to commerce or industries?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) The Government note the information supplied. In secular education and representation in the public service, the disability and lack of opportunities of the backward and depressed classes in these matters have at present necessitated special treatment in their case.

In the case of technical education, grants-in-aid to industrial schools and industrial loans which are brought into existence for the first time, the Government cannot accord any specially favourable treatment to any class of Her Highness' subjects.

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MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether there have not been such disabilities and lack of opportunities, in the matter of commerce and industries, in the case of Nairs ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : The Government are not aware of any such disability or lack of opportunity.

Nomination of Judges of the Panchayat Courts.

344. **MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*) : (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the principles, if any, on which Government nominate particular individuals as judges of the Panchayat Courts ?

(*b*) Will they be pleased to state whether they make such nomination solely on the principle of communal representation ?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to take steps whereby provision may be made for the election of at least two-thirds of the total number of judges by an electorate to be constituted in each Panchayat area ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The principles kept in view in the nomination of Panchayat Court Judges are that the persons should be men with knowledge of local conditions, enthusiasm for public work and the necessary education and character.

(*b*) Not solely ; but as far as possible the representation of communities is kept in view.

(*c*) The question requires mature consideration. It is therefore not possible to give an immediate reply.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Are the Government aware that there is provision in the Village Panchayat Regulation itself enabling the Government to recruit judges by election ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : There is provision in the Village Panchayat Regulation empowering the Government to make rules for that purpose.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : Will the Government be pleased to state how long is it since the Village Panchayat Regulation came into force ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : I presume the member means the Regulation dealing with the Village Panchayat Courts ?

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : Yes.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : The information is not now before me. I must look up and find out.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : In view of the fact that these courts have been in existence for the last ten years, will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of giving effect to the provisions of the Regulation regarding the election of judges ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : The

sion, as I said, is only a permissive one. It is not obligatory.

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